

Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Fourpence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

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SKATING TO STARDOM

It's hard work, but great fun, says champion Dianne Peach

EARLY to Bed and Early to Rise is a maxim that 18-year-old Dianne Peach takes very much to heart. And little wonder, for that habit is essential if, like Dianne, you are Britain's Figure Skating Champion and also have hopes of European and World titles.

Early to rise, because you will need to practise for something like five hours a day; early to bed, because you cannot keep up that sort of rigorous training without plenty of sleep.

"It's hard work, but fun just the same," Dianne told a CN correspondent who interviewed her at her home in Mill Hill, Middlesex. "It's not so hard now," she said, "but when I had to do schooling and homework on top of practising—well, you can imagine."

I certainly could. The champion's schedule demands that she must get up soon after 6.30 so as to be at the skating rink by 8 o'clock, when the ice is clear. From then until about 10.30 she practises the compulsory figures which can mean the difference between winning and losing a competition. After a short break she continues until lunch at 12. But at 1.30 she is back on the ice again for another two-hour energy-sapping session of jumps, leaps, and spins.

CONSTANT PRACTICE

Before important competitions Dianne even goes to the rink on Saturdays and Sundays. Like all champions, she knows that only practice and more practice makes perfect.

It sounds a rather Spartan life, but Dianne loves it, and has done so ever since that day ten years ago when her parents first took her to the ice rink near their home at Birmingham. She was then eight.

Mr. and Mrs. Peach themselves were keen skaters, and they were delighted when their daughter began to show an interest in the sport. After a while all three took lessons from the coach of the Birmingham rink. But the time soon came when he had to tell Mr. and Mrs. Peach that they would never make top-rate skaters. "But your daughter has great possibilities."

FIRST VICTORY

How right he was! Within a year of first stepping on the ice Dianne had chalked up her first victory, a Midlands competition open to skaters under-16. Further honours followed, and when she was 12 she came to the notice of Miss Gladys Hogg, coach at the Queen's Ice Rink in London; "the best teacher in Britain," Dianne calls her.

"If she were in London I could make a champion of her," said Miss Hogg on seeing Dianne skate for the first time.

Nothing could have pleased Mr. Peach more; so he arranged to be transferred to the London branch

of his firm, and Dianne went to work under Miss Hogg's expert eye.

And hard work it was! Dianne had always been brilliant at free skating, but now she had to concentrate on compulsory figures, the set movements that earn as many marks as those given for the free skating demonstration.

The hard work began to bring its reward. At 14 Dianne was Junior Champion of Great Britain, and fifth in the senior championships; at 15 she was third; at 16 second; and a few days before her 18th birthday Dianne became Britain's best skater.

(Dianne's birthday, by the way, is on Christmas Day. So she opens her Christmas presents in the morning, and has a birthday party, with more presents, in the afternoon.)

COLD ON THE ICE

International honours also came her way, and in 1956 Dianne had the thrill of competing in the European, Olympic, and World Championships within a space of three months. Those competitions are all held out of doors, and Dianne still remembers the sudden shock of her first skating sessions in temperatures below freezing point. "It was so cold that I found it difficult to breathe," she recalls with a shiver. "Every breath seemed to burn my throat."

Nevertheless, "The Pin-up Girl of the Olympics," as one German newspaper called this lovely girl with the creamy complexion and honey-red hair, earned high praise from a number of experts.

Incidentally, because of her red hair, Dianne has to be extra careful about the colours she wears. Her newest dress is black with gold panels containing 10,000 sequins and 2000 beads, all sewn on by hand.

In 1957 she was fourth in the European Championships, one place ahead of Erica Batchelor, the British champion. She was looking forward to going to America as a member of the British team for the world competition, but funds

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STATUE FOR HOLY ISLAND

A well-known sculptor, Miss Kate Parbury, is working in her Kensington studio on a huge figure of St. Aidan, which she is giving to Holy Island, off the Northumberland coast. St. Aidan settled on Holy Island early in the seventh century.

Ten feet high, the figure shows the saint leaning against a Celtic cross. It is made of coloured concrete and sandstone. On Holy Island it will stand in the open near the Priory ruins.

Chicken Station

The Lancashire railway station of Foulbridge, near Colne, may be closed although thousands of passengers use it every week.

But only about 20 of the daily passengers are human beings. The rest are, mostly day-old chicks sent by passenger train from local poultry breeders to farmers in many parts of the country.

The station would have been closed a year or two ago had it not been for the poultry traffic, but even that no longer makes the station a paying proposition.

Portrait of a Princess

This striking new portrait of Princess Margaret is by the famous Italian painter Pietro Annigoni. It is to adorn the Queen Mother's London home, Clarence House.

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Children's Newspaper

John Carpenter House
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FEBRUARY 1 1958

A MATTER OF COURTESY

EVERYONE who travels abroad is to some extent an ambassador of his country, and it is to the credit of most of our young people that they are mindful of this fact. But there are a few who seem to leave their manners behind, and thus do untold harm to the reputation of Britain.

The other day the secretary of a youth travel club stated that about 60 people out of a total of 32,000 which the club had assisted were the subject of complaints about behaviour while living in other countries. Gross discourtesy, deliberate violation of local customs, and the flouting of religious customs were the commonest complaints.

It is sad to think that a tiny minority such as this may leave behind a long trail of dislike for "those British"; sad to think that in some quarters such a few may earn us all a bad name.

Only by strict observance of courtesy and custom in all our travels abroad can the rest of us put matters right.

MERRY MONTH OF APRIL

FROM time immemorial the merry month of April has been ushered in by All Fools Day. But the Americans are to go one better this year and try to make it an even merrier month. A National Laugh Week is scheduled for April 7 to 14, and this is to be followed by a Comedy Week, complete with a National Fun Day.

We can only hope that the Americans, who have a great gift for humour, will not take it all too seriously.

THEY SAY . . .

WE pay too much attention to economists, bankers, engineers, directors, business men, and politicians and far too little to poets, philosophers, painters, sculptors, novelists of imagination, writers, teachers, musicians, even ballet dancers, and every form of artist. *Dr. Bell, retiring Bishop of Chichester*

SOMETIMES think that children are the only really honest people. *Mr. Frank Cousins*

THERE is definitely in most young people a spark of that adventurous spirit by which our country has achieved greatness in the past. It is our most priceless asset. *Sir John Hunt*

MAN IN THE NEWS

VIVIAN FUCHS OF THE ANTARCTIC

DR. VIVIAN FUCHS will go down in history as one of the world's greatest explorers. His long and hazardous journey to the South Pole, and his other achievements as leader of the British Trans-Antarctic Expedition, have gained him fresh laurels; but he has, in fact, carried out more field work



than almost any other living explorer, and much of it has been in the remote ice regions.

Born almost exactly half a century ago—on February 11, 1908—Vivian Fuchs is the son of a German who came to Britain at the age of seven and established himself as a prosperous farmer in Kent.

After leaving Brighton College, Vivian Fuchs went to St. John's College, Cambridge, and it was

there that his thirst for knowledge of the Earth developed. Geology became his subject, and in 1929 he joined the Cambridge University expedition to East Greenland. This was followed by several expeditions to East Africa, some of which he led.

It was while in Spitsbergen that he met his future wife, Joyce Connell, a London University graduate, and herself an explorer. They were married in 1933 and spent their honeymoon climbing in the Dolomites. A year later they travelled together on an exploratory trip to Africa. On their return in 1935, they settled down in a comfortable house on the outskirts of Cambridge, where Fuchs resumed his position as a don. They have two children, a daughter and a son.

In 1939 Vivian Fuchs joined the Cambridgeshire Regiment, and during the war he served in West Africa and later in north-west Europe, where he was mentioned in dispatches. Since the war his life has centred on Antarctic exploration.

Physically fit, six feet tall, and tough and chunky without being overweight, "Bunny" Fuchs (as he is called) has the gift of being able to work easily with other people. He never seems to give orders to those working under him, but if he wants anything done he only has to mention it, and it gets done. Such is Vivian Fuchs of the Antarctic!

Out and About

ON the whole winter has been kind to the birds, though the more noticeable berries are getting scarce. The fine show of cup-shaped berries of the yew is over, until next autumn, and in most places that is also nearly true of holly and of hips and haws. I was thinking how much softer than these was the particular red of yew berries, and wondering how to describe it, when I saw the answer.

Looking up at some noisy starlings crossing the heath I noticed the sun setting in front of a wall of grey cloud along the western horizon. Some of the cloud lay as if on the top of the sun, flattening the curve, and the big round ball of fire was a soft and luminous red, looking three times as big as usual and glowing with light rather like a lantern.

While it slipped down the sky I realised it was just like an enormous yew berry, with the same hue and soft glow.

C. D. D.

JUST AN IDEA

A man should never be ashamed to own he has been in the wrong, which is but saying, in other words, that he is wiser today than he was yesterday.

Dean Swift

LITTLE PLANE OVER THE POLE

A De Havilland Otter of the small R.A.F. detachment accompanying the Trans-Antarctic Expedition has become the first single-engined aircraft to complete a non-stop flight across Antarctica.

Piloted by Squadron Leader John Lewis and carrying three other members of the detachment, the Otter made its hazardous 1250-mile trip from the airstrip at South Ice to Scott Base in 10 hours 57 minutes. The plane took-off just before mid-day, and two hours later flew over Dr. Fuchs and his party, making their way over the treacherous icefields in their giant Sno-cat tractors.

The trip was completely trouble-free—very different from the first trans-antarctic flight made nearly 30 years ago by the late Admiral Richard Byrd and the great polar flyer Bernt Balchen. To clear the 10,000-foot-high polar plateau, Byrd had to jettison nearly 500 lb. of food to lighten the plane and so enable it to gain sufficient height. The plateau was cleared with barely inches to spare.

After a brief spell at the New Zealand base, the R.A.F. Otter began its task of helping Dr. Fuchs' team on the remainder of their trek by dropping supplies and helping to pick the most promising path.

News from Everywhere

A partly-blind Red Cross cadet of Birmingham, 16-year-old Robert Hinds, has passed the first series of tests for the Duke of Edinburgh's award.

The Australian Teachers' Federation is supporting a campaign for the introduction of decimal coinage.

YARD OF FISH

Three young Canterbury anglers landed a great prize the other day. Roy Fay, Christopher Rawlings, and Duncan Gray are their names, and while fishing in the River Stour they landed a 17-lb. salmon, over three feet long.

Sweden's population was 7,395,000 at the end of last year. One Swede in every nine owns a car.

A Russian scientist reports seeing an "abominable snowman" on two occasions while exploring the Pamir Mountains in central Asia. He says it was a man-like creature covered with reddish-grey hair, and walking with a stoop.

OVERSIGHT

A Widnes reader points out that the transporter bridge across the Mersey (pictured recently in the CN) does in fact belong to Widnes, although we did not even mention this town. We apologise for the omission.

SHACKLETON'S RESTING PLACE

In our issue of January 11 we published a picture which was described as Sir Ernest Shackleton's burial place in South Georgia. Some readers have since informed us that the picture shows a memorial cairn, and that his grave is in a cemetery about a mile away.

Queen's Scout



Graeme Etherington, 16-year-old troop leader of the 5th Bromley (Kent) Scouts, has just become a Queen's Scout. His favourite hobby is making model ships.

ABORIGINE PILOT

The first Australian Aborigine to learn to fly is 19-year-old William Alex Bernal, of Perth, who has been awarded a scholarship by the Australian Aircraft Owners' and Pilots' Association.





Basket of boxers

Mary Kelleher (13) of Blofield in Norfolk is the proud owner of Dainty Dinah, a prizewinning boxer. And Dainty Dinah, although rather in the background, is the proud owner of these puppies.

UP THE SILVER STAIRCASE

The Vicar of Denaby Mains, Mexborough, South Yorkshire, is trying to build a "silver staircase" at his home in aid of church funds. He and his mother invite friends to visit the Vicarage between seven and ten in the evening. There they are offered refreshment and invited to leave silver coins on the staircase.

On the first occasion two steps were covered with coins to the value of £15 10s.

TONY PREFERS TO WORK

An old pit pony which worked in a colliery, near Barnsley, cannot get used to retirement. Recently Tony's working life came to an end and he was retired to Manor Hall Farm, Darton, a National Coal Board rest home for aged pit ponies.

But Tony soon trotted off to the colliery a mile away and miners going on day shift found him waiting at the cage to go down too. It was only with coaxing that he agreed to be led back to the farm. He has since made several other attempts to get back to work.

Train-Spotter saves crash

A young train-spotter, David Alan Heathcote, recently spotted something which saved a nasty accident.

While waiting at Chesterfield Station for a train to take him into Sheffield to see a pantomime he noticed that a two-hundred-weight luggage truck had fallen on the main line in the path of the train he was waiting for. David dashed up to an inspector and the truck was pulled out of the way two minutes before the train pulled in.

OLD NAVY FLAG FLIES AGAIN

An unfamiliar flag fluttered in the breeze the other day at Greenwich, in front of the National Maritime Museum. Showing three gold anchors on a red ground, it was, in fact, a flag that has not flown since 1831. It was the flag of the Navy Board, which was abolished in that year, its work then being transferred to the direct control of the Admiralty. The National Maritime Museum will fly it again on certain ceremonial occasions.

Established in the reign of Henry the Eighth, the Navy Board was the naval department responsible for civil administration, dockyards, and shipbuilding. Samuel Pepys was Secretary for several years.

Filming through his hat

No two-seater aircraft being able to keep pace with the 1200-m.p.h. Convair Hustler, photographs of this new delta-winged machine in flight have to be taken by test pilots in single-seater jet-fighters.

A pilot, acting as photographer, has a special movie camera built into his helmet. He simply looks at the part of the plane he wants to photograph, then presses a button on his control stick to start the camera running.

In this way he gets a permanent record of the behaviour of the Hustler's structure at very high speeds. Until the introduction of the new headpiece camera, engineers had to depend on the pilot's notes and descriptions.

FINE RECORD OF SAFETY

Seven hundred workers at a Birmingham food factory were given a turkey lunch and the afternoon off the other day to celebrate a year's work free of accidents.

The factory started a safety training scheme several years ago, and the accident rate has been falling steadily ever since. Then, at the beginning of 1957, the managing director promised the whole staff this celebration if they could avoid accidents for the next 12 months.

As the end of the year approached and there were still no accidents, excitement began to grow—especially as the last weeks of December went by. The lunch, plus transport, cost £1500.

● GREAT 2118-PRIZE COMPETITION NOW OPEN ●

The CN National Handwriting Test of 1958

WIDESPREAD interest has been aroused by this great competition—first announced generally in last week's CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER—and applications for the special Entry Forms are now pouring in from all over the country.

It is the seventh of these nation-wide Tests to be held by CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER—this time with a greatly increased prize list—and schools and teachers are invited to co-operate by entering their pupils.

The Test is for all full-time pupils of schools and colleges in Great Britain, all Ireland, and the Channel Islands who are under 17 years of age. The special Entry Forms are for issue only through schools.

Each entrant has only to copy the Test Passage, a short paragraph on the art of Handwriting (printed on the Entry Form), in his or her normal handwriting, as taught in school.

The Prizes, listed on the right, total One Thousand Pounds in value—while in addition there will be ten thousand Awards of Merit for other boys and girls.

To give an equal chance to all, entries will be classed in THREE AGE GROUPS, with three double prizes in each group for schools and pupils. You can thus win for your school as well as for yourself, or perhaps gain one of the other awards in that great list of 2118 prizes!

If you would like to be entered for the Test, please show this page to your Teacher and (unless the school has already applied) ask him or her kindly to complete the coupon below and send it to the C.N. Remember that entries must be on the special Entry Form which is issued to schools on request.

Remember, too, that there is a special age group for you, and that your test effort may be completed in school or at home, as decided by your Teacher.

There is NO entry fee, but when sent in every attempt must have affixed to it one of the Tokens (marked CN Writing Test 1958), now to be found in every issue of the Newspaper. One of these Tokens is printed at the foot of the back page of this copy.

When completed, all entries are to be sent in in accordance with the directions given in the Entry Form. The Closing Date for entries is Monday, March 31. Entries will be judged by a committee of educationists and other qualified examiners headed by the Editor of CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER.

● NOTE TO TEACHERS ●

The Entry Form contains the Test Passage, space for the pupil's attempt, and the full rules. It is issued to schools only on request, and if desired a specimen copy will be sent before the full request is made.

Teachers are asked to be good enough to assess the required number of forms as closely as possible, and to send for them—or for the specimen copy only, in the first place—on this coupon. The form or forms will then be sent free and post free, to be handed out at school.

The last date for form applications is February 28, and the competition closing date is Monday, March 31.

(N.B.—It is regretted that the Test cannot be extended to schools outside Great Britain, Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands, and the Irish Republic.)

£1000 Prize List!

GROUP A ... Pupils under 9 Years

1st Prizes :	To the School	£50
	Prize-winning Pupil	£5
2nd Prizes :	To the School	£25
	Prize-winning Pupil	£4
3rd Prizes :	To the School	£10
	Prize-winning Pupil	£3

GROUP B ... Pupils aged 9 to under 12

1st Prizes :	To the School	£50
	Prize-winning Pupil	£5
2nd Prizes :	To the School	£25
	Prize-winning Pupil	£4
3rd Prizes :	To the School	£10
	Prize-winning Pupil	£3

GROUP C ... Pupils of 12 to under 17

1st Prizes :	To the School	£50
	Prize-winning Pupil	£5
2nd Prizes :	To the School	£25
	Prize-winning Pupil	£4
3rd Prizes :	To the School	£10
	Prize-winning Pupil	£3

100 Consolation Prizes: 50 Wrist-watches and 50 copies of the Concise Oxford Dictionary.

2000 Other Prizes: Special "exchange point" Fountain-pens for next best entries.

10,000 Awards of Merit: Certificates for the best entry from each school submitting 10 or more attempts and not represented in the prize list.

To CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER, Competition Dept.,
3 Pilgrim Street, London, E.C.4 (Comp.)

CN
2

Please send me (free and post free).....copies of the CN NATIONAL HANDWRITING TEST of 1958 Entry Forms for my pupils.

.....PRINCIPAL/FORM
MASTER or MISTRESS

School

School Address

This coupon may be posted under 2d. stamp if sent unsealed.

ERNEST THOMSON WRITES ABOUT RADIO AND TELEVISION PERSONALITIES AND PROGRAMMES

SHORT CUTS TO MAKING YOUR OWN BOAT

BOYS WILL BE BOYS

And they were the same 1800 years ago

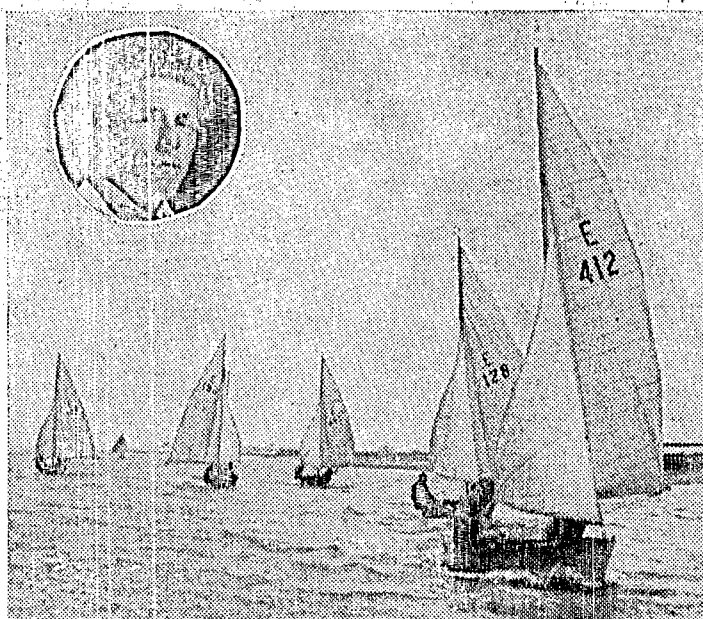
Why not build your own dinghy?

Many people, I am told, are busy at this very moment in garages and backyards, some even in the lofts of their houses, assembling boat kits that will enable them to sail in the spring and summer.

One of the most popular classes of dinghy is the Enterprise. Jack Holt, the well-known Putney boat-builder, who designed it, will be showing viewers how to make one in Short Cuts, in BBC Television, beginning on Friday.

Mr. Holt has been visiting the American Boat Show in New York, and is due to return to this country only a few hours before Friday's programme. A colleague of his at the Putney works told me that it was two years ago that Jack Holt completed the Enterprise design, and it has proved immensely popular. The boat's overall length is 13 feet 3 inches and beam 5 feet 3 inches.

Although building such a boat, even from a ready-made kit, is a big challenge to a teenager, a great many fathers and sons—and daughters, too—work as a team. Assembling a boat makes an ideal wintertime hobby. When summer comes you will be reminded of



Jack Holt and some of the popular Enterprise class dinghies which he designed

Reproduced by courtesy of the News Chronicle

Water Rat's words in The Wind in the Willows. "Believe me, my young friend," he said. "There is nothing—absolutely nothing—half so much worth doing as

simply messing about in boats."

Also in Friday's programme you can pick up a few hints on the framing and mounting of prints.

Tales of the tankers

Most of us can thrill to the sight of a great 80,000-ton Atlantic passenger liner, but there is almost as romantic a story these days connected with the immense oil-tankers that are now ploughing the seas in increasing numbers.

We can see and hear about them in Sea and Ships, in BBC Television on Friday. Alan Villiers will be introducing Captain Kenneth Jack Morris, who commands one of the latest super-tankers of the type that can carry 100,000 tons of oil at one loading.

The first "tanker" to transport oil across the Atlantic was the 224-ton brig Elizabeth Watts in 1861. Captain Morris will compare this tiny vessel with the giants of today,

and have a word, too, about the latest development—atomic tankers.

His adventures, by the way, included wartime exploits against enemy submarines. He will tell how his ship was sunk, one of the 245 tankers that Britain lost between 1939 and 1945.

Ivanhoe on the screen

LONDON-BORN Roger Moore, who plays Ivanhoe in the Associated-Rediffusion series, has spent most of his acting career in America. But the Ivanhoe films are being made in England, at the Beaconsfield Studios, not in America as stated on this page a fortnight ago.

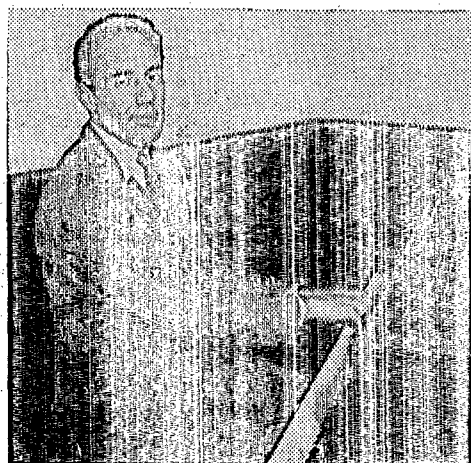
Hans returns with his piano

It is nearly a year since BBC Children's Hour listeners last heard Hans at the Piano, but he

is making a welcome return to the programme on Thursday evening.

Hans Schaeffer is a North Country business man whose hobby is singing to his own accompaniment on the piano. He is a Czech, having been born at Brno about 40 years ago. He came to this country in 1939, married an English girl, and now lives in a delightful country cottage just outside York.

On Thursday evening he will play and sing two traditional Czech songs, and will also recall some of the numbers that were popular in Britain in 1957.



Hans Schaeffer at the keyboard

Happy music from the banjo band

IN BBC Television's Off the Record this Thursday Jack Payne will ask us to meet the Big Ben Banjo Band, which is making a serious effort to bring this half-forgotten instrument into favour again.

Norrie Paramor, recording manager and band leader, formed the group as an experiment. "The banjo virtually died out in the 1930's," he said. "However, we soon found that our recordings were selling. Apparently young people liked the sound of what was to them a new instrument—the banjo. It is not difficult to learn to play, and it makes happy music, which is what the public demand these days."

In Off the Record, the band, making its first television appearance, will be playing the Liechtensteiner Polka.

See if you like the sound, and whether you think the banjo would be easy to learn.

Studio E goes outside

WHEN is Studio E not Studio E? When this popular Monday show in BBC Children's TV breaks out from its Lime Grove surroundings for an outside broadcast. Ten days ago (January 20), for the first time, producer Hunter Blair took an O.B. from the Bristol Zoo.

Next Monday, he tells me, there will be a seven-minute switch to the BBC Birmingham studios. Percy Thrower, the TV gardening expert, will be there to show viewers how to get the best out of their own indoor gardens with foliage plants.

Boys of 1800 years ago behaved very much like some boys we know today—according to Riddle of the Red Wolf, the new serial by Desmond O'Donovan which starts in BBC Children's TV on Saturday.

The scene is Rome around the year A.D. 100. One morning the city walls are found to be defaced with the words: "Caius is a Fool." Rufus, accused of the crime, is thought to have been simply getting his own back on his school-fellow Caius, but such writing on the Roman walls is considered an affront to the Emperor. Though he protests his innocence, Rufus is

in bad trouble, so his school-fellows start sleuthing around the highways and byways of the Eternal City, trying to discover the real culprit.

Rufus and Caius are played by Kevin Kelly and Paul Cole, both 14 and both from the Corona Stage School. The other boys include Bunny May and Vernon Morris. Jill Carson plays a sister, and there are other parts for Oliver Burt as the Roman schoolmaster and John Saleu as a soothsayer.

Don't expect the mood of the story to be too serious. I can tell you the original title was "Tees and Togas."

In action with a rescue squad

A RESCUE squad of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals will be seen in action in BBC Children's TV next Tuesday. Outside Broadcast cameras are being taken to the R.S.P.C.A.'s Liverpool branch to show viewers some of the day-to-day work carried out there.

Then the rescue squad will set out. The call may be for an animal to be brought down from a tree or tall building, a bird caught in the

rigging of a ship in the Mersey, or perhaps a sheep or goat that has fallen down a hole. Whatever the cameras show will be a typical job carried out by the squad with their animal ambulance.

Part of the programme will be in the clinic where people bring their pets for treatment. This is quite near where the R.S.P.C.A. was founded in 1809.

Our commentator will be Trevor Hill.



An R.S.P.C.A. official rescues two sheep from a cliff face

Looking at Tomorrow

It may seem strange to link well-known people in show business and sport with religion, but that is the idea behind a new type of TV programme, specially for teenagers, which ABC Television will be networking on Sunday evenings between 6.15 and 7 o'clock, starting on February 16.

Facing Tomorrow, as it is called, is described by producer Ben Churchill as a serious attempt at a religious programme for young people, using the technique of modern entertainment. It will take the form of a teenage club in the

Birmingham studios with boys and girls from all sorts of homes and backgrounds getting together to talk about their feelings on religious questions.

You can hear popular singers illustrating a discussion on how religion has influenced the music of today through spirituals. Every programme will include a round-table chat on problems facing teenagers.

Penry Jones, a young welfare worker from the Iona Community off the Island of Mull will be a regular guest.

Old fur-trading post closes its doors

York Factory, the famous old trading station at the mouth of the Nelson River on Hudson Bay, stands empty this winter after 275 years of trading with the Indians of Northern Canada. (In days gone by "factory" was the term used for a merchant's warehouse abroad.)

From the time of Charles II ships from Britain brought in cargoes including knives, hatchets, sugar, and blankets and in exchange brought out the rich furs of the North. But now furs have become scarce in the district and the great nail-studded doors of York Factory, with their wrought iron hinges, have been closed for the last time. The worn stairs, the handrail polished by thousands of horny Indian hands, and the warehouse walls lined with satin-spruce remain there only as memories of traders, and bargains, and of gay celebrations as the year's harvest

of furs was exchanged for the eagerly awaited goods of Europe.

For the old days of barter are passing. Money is coming into the life of the Indian and he prefers to send his furs direct to the city stores where his account can be credited and he can buy more glamorous goods than the trader can offer him at a store in the wilderness. He can visit the city by air if he wishes.

York Factory is likely to become one of Canada's historical monuments now that air travel can take the tourist up in the wild lands of Hudson Bay. The big hall is more than a hundred feet long and lighted by 13 long windows to give a good light so that goods could be inspected thoroughly.

CREES ON THE MOVE

Great square-hewn beams span the hall, strengthened by huge "knees", such as were used for wooden ships, cut from trees hauled down the Hayes and Nelson Rivers. About a mile away stands the little church, and beyond it the straggling houses of an Indian settlement.

Only 20 years back hundreds of Cree Indians still brought their rich furs of mink, otter, beaver, and muskrat into the great room at York Factory. Moose and caribou were plentiful. Now the Crees are moving away to other hunting grounds and deserting the area.

So this winter the old place is left to its memories and a bronze plaque is being fixed to its walls to recall for the adventurous visitor the story of 275 years of trade with the Indians.

SHOWING THE WAY

Experiments with flashing direction indicators on a few London Transport buses have been so successful that they are now to be fitted on all the buses. The indicators are to be mounted at the front of the bus on spring-loaded "wings." Arrows on the rear-light panel also show the intended direction.

Catamaran sails on London River



This unusual craft was seen on the busy London reaches of the Thames recently—a catamaran, yacht with twin hulls. Here we see the Bebe Cat, as it is called, sailing near Hungerford Bridge, Charing Cross.

NEW FILMS

ALL THE FUN AND THRILLS OF THE SOAPBOX DERBY

ONCE again the Children's Film Foundation has produced a first-class piece of entertainment in Soapbox Derby, which has been released for Saturday morning shows. The author, Robert Martin, and the director, Darcy Conyers, have "borrowed" their idea from the Boy Scouts who, every year at Crystal Palace, hold a soapbox derby in which Scout troops race in little cars they have made out of scraps.

But this film is set in and around the London area of Battersea and it concerns the rivalry between two boys' gangs... the Battersea Bats and the Victoria Vipers. The two gangs decide to enter for the Derby and each secretly builds its own car.

There is no doubt that the Battersea Bats have the better and faster car, which has been designed by "Foureyes" Fulton and is raced by "Legs" Johnson. When Lew Lender is thrown out of the Bats because of the unsporting way he behaves in fights, he joins the Vipers and becomes the villain of the piece. With the help of his father, Lew devises a plot to get hold of the plans of the Bats' car, when the two rival teams have won through to the final.

TREACHERY

He manages to do this by tricking "Foureyes" Fulton's baby sister into showing him where they are hidden. Believing that "Foureyes" has deliberately given away the plans of the car the Bats cold-shoulder him and he goes over to the Vipers and tries to help them improve their car.

But it is still quite obvious that the Bats have the better vehicle so the Vipers steal the 'Bat' and fling it into a quarry. But the Battersea boys manage to save their car from destruction, and get to the starting post at the last minute.

There is a great deal of healthy excitement in this film and two particularly funny scenes, one where Lew's big, fat father is caught up in a quarry excavator



The Battersea Bats hold a time-trial for their "soapbox car"

and left to whirl round and round high above the quarry, and the other where he and his son finish up wallowing in a muddy swamp. Thus they receive full retribution for their rascally conduct in trying to cheat in order to win the Soapbox Derby.

There is also some splendid acting by the young players, notably Keith Davis, Roy Townsend and Alan Coleshill, and also by Dennis Shaw, Jean Ireland, and our old friend Mark Daly among the grown-ups. The London scenes are very realistic and I am sure this will be a popular film among Saturday morning cinema-goers.

DAVY introduces popular Harry Secombe to the cinema. The famous radio and television comedian is not only a funny man but he has a lovable personality and a brilliant operatic singing voice.

In Davy, Harry plays the star of a not-very-successful slapstick variety act which keeps pegging away hoping for a break at the Palladium. Just when this looks

likely to happen Harry (who is, of course, Davy) is given the opportunity of an audition for Covent Garden. He succeeds, and a glittering singing career is before him.

But, in his heart, he knows that if he leaves 'The Mad Morgans' this family act will collapse, and he has to make up his mind whether he should let personal ambition interfere with family loyalty.

Here is a gentle film in which Harry Secombe's warm personality shines through. It shows that personal ambition is a fine thing for us all, but that unselfishness is even more vital.

There is fine singing from Harry Secombe and Adele Leigh, and you will love The Mad Morgans' crazy variety act in which Harry, Bill Owen, Susan Shaw, George Relph, and Ron Randell revel in splashing paint and whitewash all over the stage—and themselves.

Pastor to the gypsies

A Protestant clergyman of Brunswick, Georg Althaus, is the West German Republic's first and only pastor to gypsies.

He has learned their language, and in his spare time occupies himself with translating the Bible into Rumanian. As long ago as 1934 the young clergyman invited some gypsy families into his parish meeting-hall, sang with them and preached to them. When subsequently the German gypsies were persecuted and deported by Hitler, Pastor Althaus fearlessly interceded for them, and was several times arrested in consequence.

Today he is officially installed as the pastor of a Hildesheim camp in which 200 Romanies live. He has established a kindergarten, helps his parishioners in their dealings with the authorities, and strives to improve the living conditions of the camp.



Davy and his little nephew (played by Peter Frampton)

WORLD WAR AGAINST MALARIA

A concerted attack all round the world on malaria is to be made this year, and it is hoped that the disease will be fought to a standstill.

It is some 40 years ago since Britain had a sharp attack of malaria. This was in 1918, while a violent influenza epidemic was also raging. In Holland malaria claimed its victims as recently as 1946. The possibility of it returning to the northern regions of Europe and America are remote, but cannot be finally ruled out. Only the regions round the North and South Poles are entirely free from it.

Sir Ronald Ross's famous discovery that the mosquito was the prime carrier of the malaria parasite is now backed by modern insecticides which can be used against

the insects both from the air and on the ground.

Sixty-three countries with a population of 680 million have now declared that they wish to wipe out malaria. That decision alone is historic, because in India and the countries of Africa it had become an accepted fact that thousands would die each year of the disease and that nothing much could be done except keep it in check. The decision means that millions of houses throughout the world's most infected areas will be sprayed with an insecticide perhaps three times a year for three or four years.

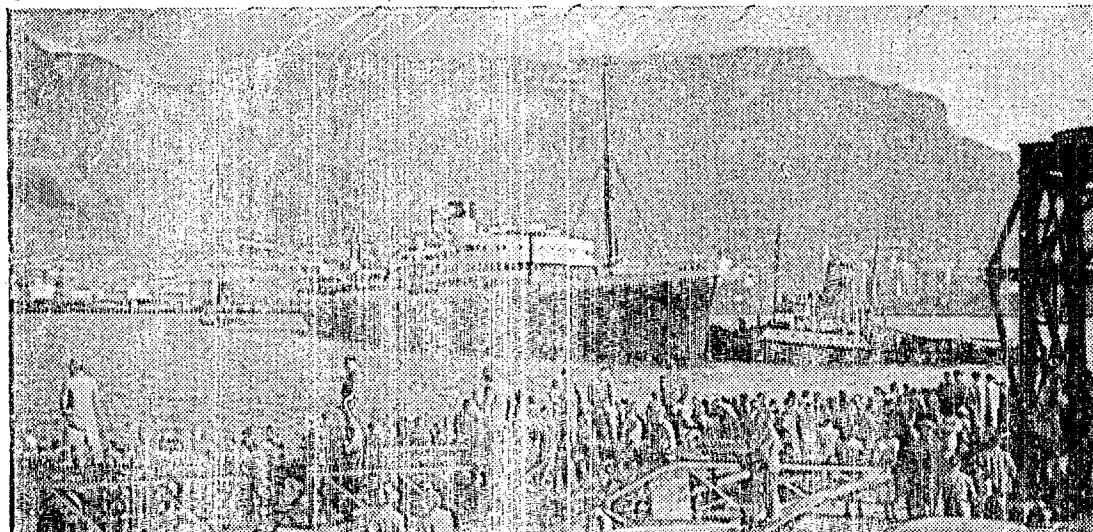
The success of this policy is seen in the Mediterranean island of Crete, which up to 1945, was plagued with malaria. Then the policy of eradication was begun with three years of continuous

spraying. A careful watch is still kept in Crete, but for nine years now this scourge has been absent.

In the tropical areas of Africa, travellers and residents must still take preventive medicine every day and sleep under protective covering at night. Over 80 million people are exposed to malaria in this continent, and only about one-third are receiving protection at present. In Ceylon, Thailand, and Afghanistan millions more are exposed to the risk.

It is now known that it is more profitable in the long run to kill adult mosquitoes in homes and buildings than it is to kill the larvae in the swamps or rivers. The malaria parasite is doomed more speedily in the developed mosquito, and the new methods of spraying make more sure of its destruction.

COMMONWEALTH PANORAMA—CAPE TOWN, SC



The Duncan Dock, with 290 acres of water, shelters the big ships which call at Cape Town

Facts about Cape Town

OLDEST city in the Union of South Africa and seat of the Parliament, Cape Town was founded in 1652 by Johan van Riebeeck. With a party of settlers he established a small outpost to victual Dutch ships on the trade route to the East Indies.

ONE of the world's most beautiful cities, Cape Town can also boast a delightful climate, with an average of 245 days of sunshine a year. The summer months are December, January, and February. The beautiful scenery, climate, and wonderful bathing beaches have made it a great holiday centre.

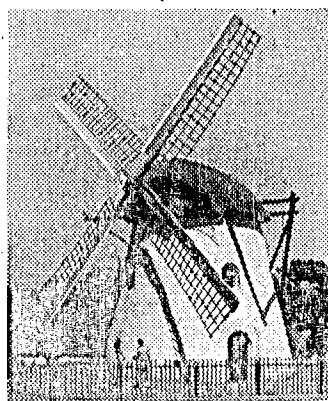
IT lies at the northern end of the Cape Peninsula, the tongue of land which forms the southern tip of the African Continent. About 45 miles long and covering about 250 square miles, the Cape Peninsula ends at the Cape of Good Hope, which Sir Francis Drake described as "the fairest Cape that we saw in the whole circumference of the earth."

TODAY it is the second biggest city in the Union (Johannesburg is the biggest), with a population of about 700,000, the white people numbering less than half of this total. With its suburbs, the total area is 79 square miles.

SOUTH AFRICA'S chief port, it has a harbour with over 365 acres of water. It is 6000 miles from London.

ONE of the sights of Cape Town is the "Table Cloth," seen when a great white bank of cloud drapes itself over the top of Table Mountain.

THE oldest street in the city, and still the principal one, is Adderley Street, which leads from the harbour to Government Avenue. A mile long, Government Avenue is lined with oaks, and on either side of it are the city's chief buildings, including the Houses of Parliament, Government House, the South African Library, the South African Museum, and the National Art Gallery.



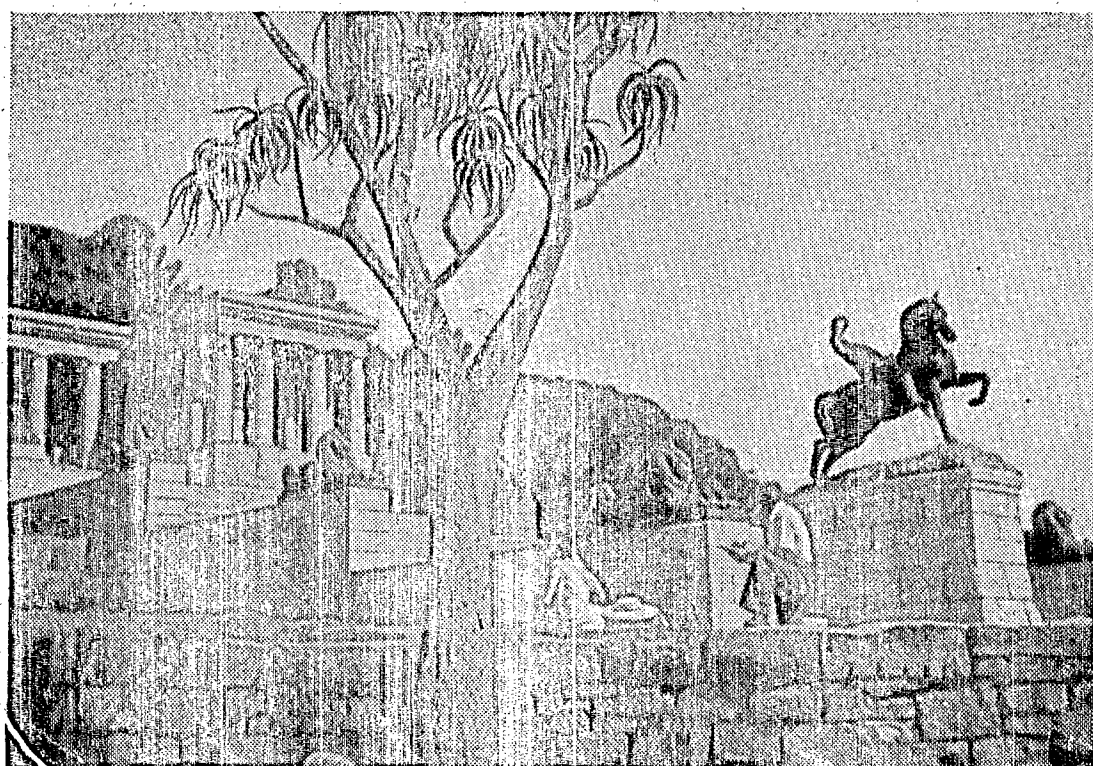
An old Dutch mill still working

MANY historic buildings have been preserved. The oldest is the Castle, dating from 1666, which replaced van Riebeeck's original wooden fort. Another is the Old Town House, built in 1755, and containing a celebrated collection of 17th-century Dutch and Flemish paintings.

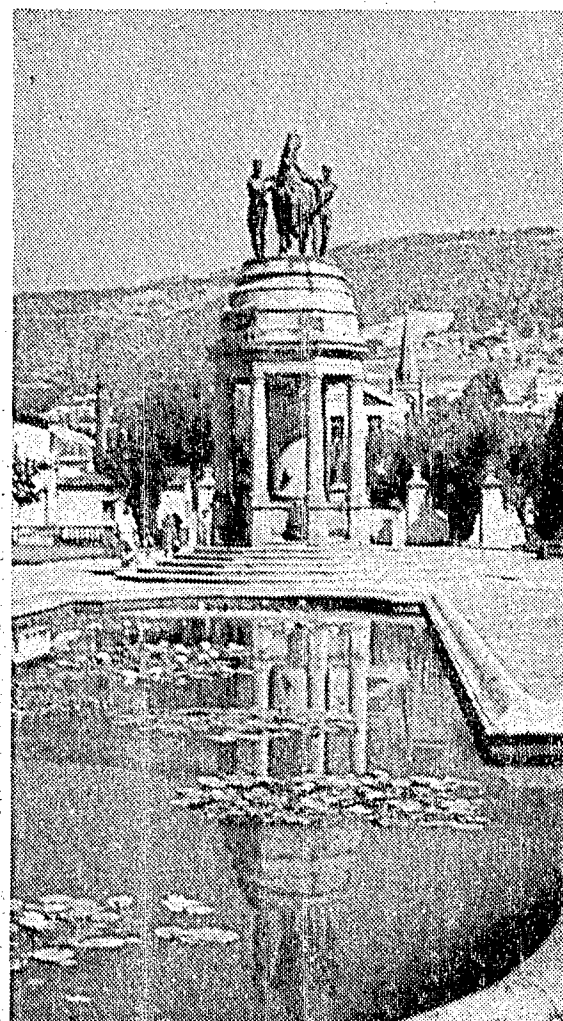
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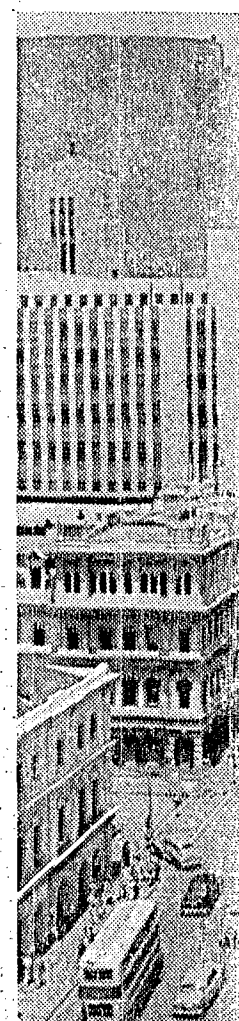
Devil's Peak, Table Mountain, and Lion's Head towering above



The imposing monument to Cecil Rhodes on the mountainside above the University



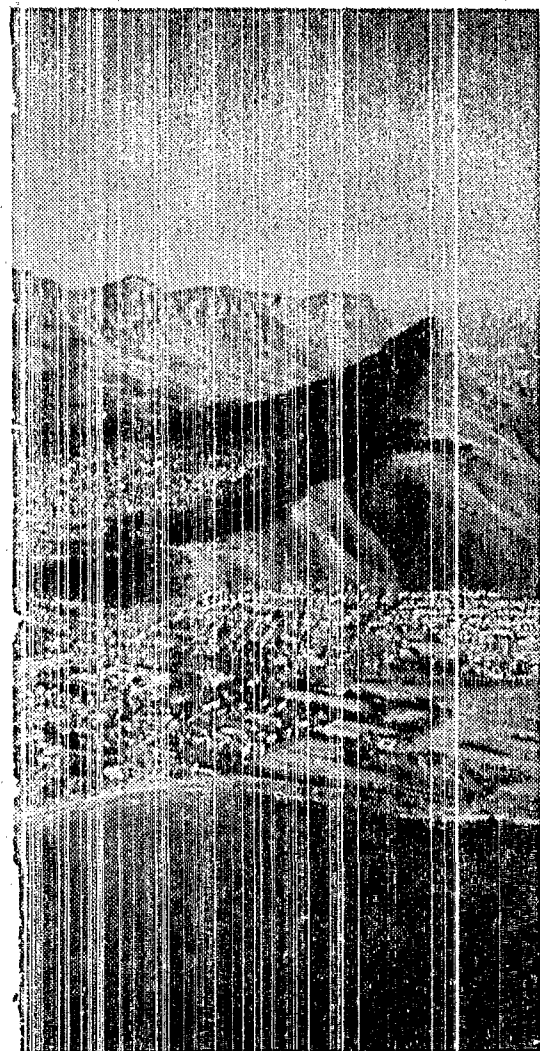
A war memorial in the Botanical Gardens



Adderley Street, 1

her, February 1, 1958

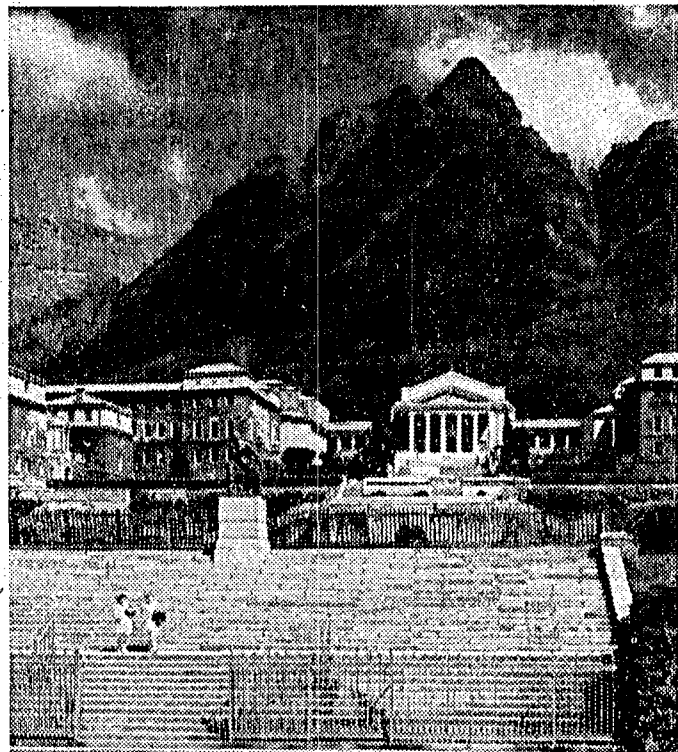
SOUTH AFRICA



Cape Town and its fine harbour



City Hall, looking out over the Grand Parade



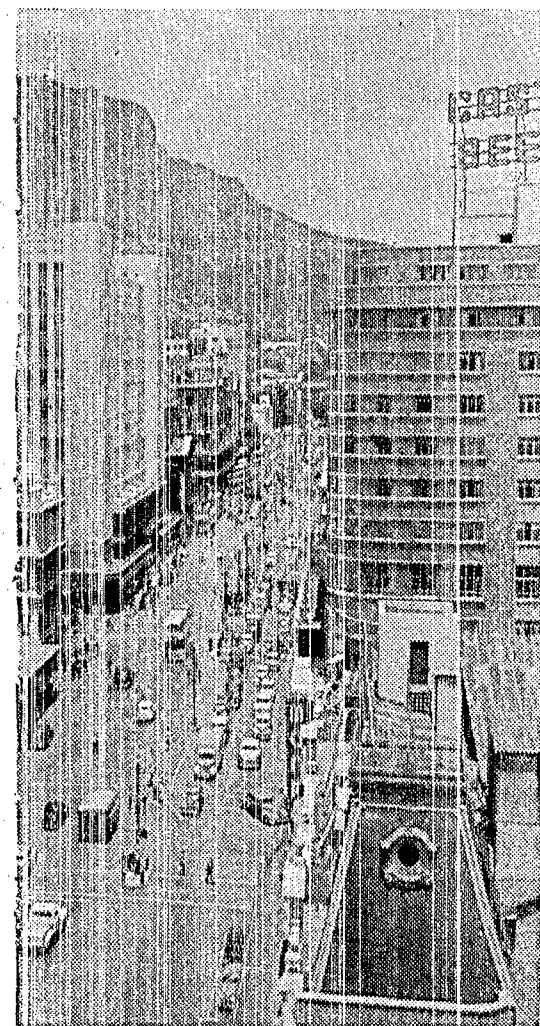
University of Cape Town on the lower slopes of Devil's Peak



van Riebeeck, founder of the city



The Cape Peninsula has several grand bathing beaches like this one at Hout Bay



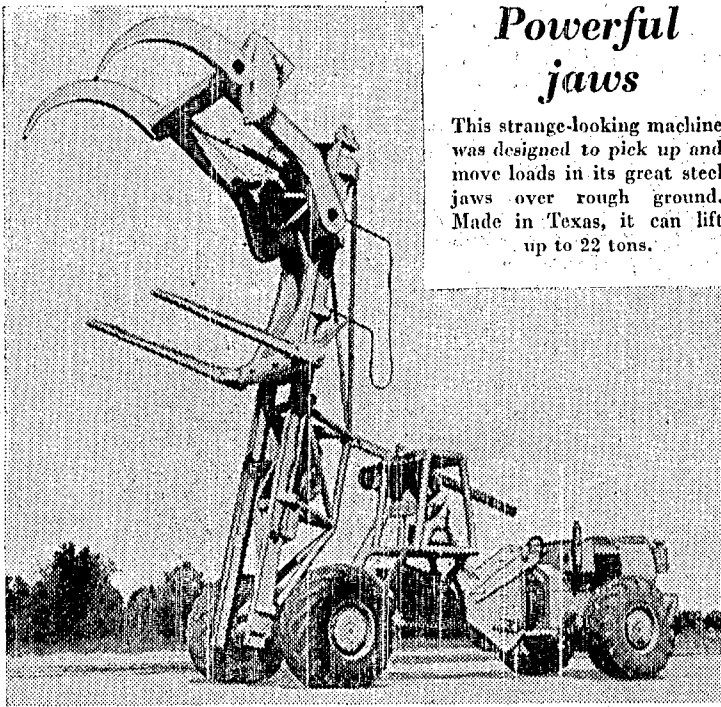
The main thoroughfare running from the harbour



Cableway to the top of Table Mountain, over 3500 feet high



Groote Schuur (Great Barn), the Prime Minister's residence



Powerful jaws

This strange-looking machine was designed to pick up and move loads in its great steel jaws over rough ground. Made in Texas, it can lift up to 22 tons.

New capital is a garden city

One of the Commonwealth countries is soon to have a new capital. The Governor of Uganda has announced that the seat of Government in the Protectorate is to be transferred from Entebbe to Kampala, 22 miles away.

Kampala is a fine town with two cathedrals and two mosques, wide thoroughfares and modern shops, hospitals, and hotels, and its university serves the whole of East Africa.

Kampala, though only 25 miles north of the Equator, is never unpleasantly hot, for it lies 4000 feet above sea level. It has two short rainy seasons, but no winter, and flowers and trees bloom all the year round. Indeed, it has so many flowering trees and green open spaces that it is often called East Africa's garden city.

Kampala means "the hill of the antelope," although, like Rome, it actually stands on seven hills.

SCHOOL FOR PAGE-BOYS

The American Congress maintains a very unusual school. It is for the 70 page-boys who run errands, distribute papers, and do other work for the Members of Congress and also for the Judges of the U.S. Supreme Court.

When Congress is in session, the Capitol Page School bells ring at 6.30 a.m., and the boys—whose jobs must not interfere with their education—remain at classes until a quarter to ten, after which they report at the Capitol for duty.

Lessons at the Zoo

Many lucky schoolchildren are now getting lessons at the London Zoo. In what are called Walk and Talk classes, they attend a short lecture illustrated by lantern slides, and then visit the animals which are the immediate subject.

These Zoo classes are to continue from Mondays to Fridays until March 21.

DIANNE PEACH IS SKATING TO STARDOM

Continued from page 1

allowed only one figure skater to make the journey; and just as well, as it turned out, for a few days before the event Dianne had to go to hospital with appendicitis.

The day after the operation the surgeon came to see how she was getting on. "I know your face," he said, after inquiring how she was feeling. "Could I have seen you at Cortina at the Winter Olympics?"

Dianne said it was possible, for she had skated there.

"I knew it," replied the surgeon. "I'm a member of the International Olympic Committee. My name is Porritt, Sir Arthur Porritt."

Dianne was to see rather more of hospital wards than she expected in the following weeks, for not long after she went home she had to return because of complications concerned with the operation; and before the summer was over she had to have her tonsils removed.

"I once had an ambition to be a nurse," said Dianne, "but I think I've changed my mind now. But I'd rather like to be a doctor."

That is one ambition, however, that will certainly have to be postponed for a while, for Dianne has a more immediate aim—to win this week's European Championships in Bratislava and the world title a few weeks later in Paris.

You may have the chance of seeing Dianne skating in Europe, for some of the events are to be televised and relayed through Eurovision.

Dianne was delighted when I gave her this news. "That means Mummy and Daddy will be able to see." Then another thought struck her, and her grey eyes twinkled. "When I am skating in Europe I always phone home to give the results at the end of the compulsory figures. Now I can save myself 30 shillings!"



JOHN WESLEY'S CHAIR

When John Wesley conducted meetings in the home of a Bermondsey builder, Robert Smith, he always sat in a specially-made chair.

Quite a solid affair, made of mahogany and upholstered in black horsehair, the chair later came into the possession of a lady who remembered Wesley taking her on his knee and teaching her to sing one of his brother Charles's hymns, "Oh, what shall I do my Saviour to praise?"

Now her grandson, Mr. J. H. Kaehler, who is 90 years old, has presented this old chair, re-upholstered in brocade, to the Wesley Museum, in John Wesley's old home in City Road, on the borders of London's East End.

Southend's pier railway runs all the year round

In a recent paragraph the CN stated that the railway on Southend pier would be out of commission for some years, while improvements are being made to the track. The pier authorities have pointed out that this was an error, and we are happy to report that it will not be out of commission for a single day. Here are the true facts about this popular railway on the longest pier in the world.

It is by no means a miniature railway, for its trains normally have seven coaches, each with seats for 38 passengers. It runs all the year round, service varying from every 15 minutes in the winter to every five minutes in summer.

During the winter, part of the track is re-laid as a matter of

routine, and from now on new rails will incorporate Ellison Joints to reduce noise. To complete this work will take several years, but where the railway runs under the Pier Pavilion, rubber rail pads and silent joints were installed some years ago.

These joints ensure that there are no train noises to cause disturbance in the Pavilion, a building always in great demand. It is, indeed, in use morning, afternoon, and evening in most days of the year.

Incidentally, the rhythm of the railway has never been "Dah-Diddly-Dah," as the CN suggested. The Pier Manager tells us that the nearest he can get to its song is "Clunk-Clunk."

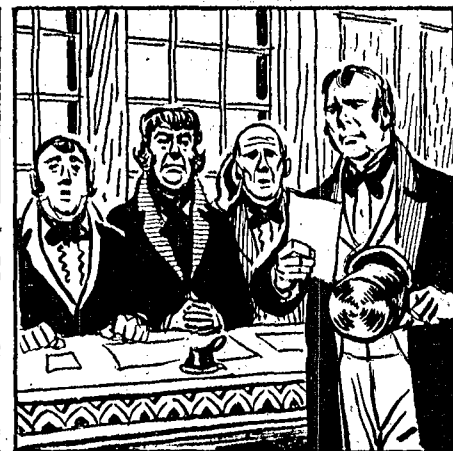
FATHER OF THE LOCOMOTIVE—the amazing story of Richard Trevithick (7)



The Thames tunnel company abandoned their scheme, and Trevithick received little reward for all his work, though other engineers praised it highly. But now he had a new idea. He noticed the water from a disused boiler was good to drink, and gave some to his young son. This suggested that iron tanks would be better for ships' drinking water than the wooden casks then used, in which the water became stale and impure.



He had little money left, but he acquired a yard at Limehouse and there he began making iron tanks and buoys and models of iron ships—which his critics said could never float. He was helped by a faithful one-legged workman, John Steel—who often had to wait for his wages. Meanwhile, Trevithick had submitted his proposal for iron water tanks to the Navy Board.



He was invited to appear before Admiralty medical experts to explain his idea. But the "experts" told him that "water from iron tanks" would poison all the sailors in His Majesty's service. Losing his patience, he called them "a lot of old women," and marched out. Although the Admiralty opposed his idea, several captains subsequently had iron tanks fitted into their ships at their own expense.



Trevithick made no money from his valuable inventions of iron tanks and buoys. He was now a celebrated engineer, but in the eight years that had passed since he put the world's first locomotive on the road, he had made no profit from any of his numerous inventions. One day in 1810 everything he owned was seized to pay his debts, and he and his wife and family were left penniless in their now bare London house.

Will anyone come to this great man's rescue? See next week's instalment

2. Who is Johnson?

The village of Bringewood Chase is on the borders of Hereford and Shropshire, where the road crossing the River Teme by an old stone bridge was once used by the Roman Legions. The village has two inns, one called The Smiling Sun, and the other The Two Bells, a shabby little place in a lane off the main street. Into this tavern one hot August morning came a tall stranger dressed in a suit of brown tweeds.

On the left of the passage was a gloomy bar. The man walked in, dropping the heavy canvas grip he carried to the floor. The bar was empty. He walked over to the counter and rang the bell. A door opened and a man came in. He was fat, pale and bald, and looked as grubby and uncared for as his inn.

No rooms

The stranger spoke first. "Morning to you," he said in a harsh voice with an unusual twang. "You the boss here? Name of Blandish?"

The fat man nodded. "How do you know my name?" he asked.

"Painted over the door. I want a room for a few nights. I like it here. Just a room and breakfast, and maybe an evening meal when I'm in. What do you charge?"

"No rooms to let here, Mister." Simon Blandish stepped close to the counter, switched on a light over the bar and looked hard at the stranger. He could not remember when anyone had last asked to stay at the Two Bells. "We're thinking of packing up. This village is dead."

The stranger leaned forward anxiously. "I won't give you any trouble. Just a room and two meals!" He took a bulging wallet from his pocket, put it on the counter and slipped out two £5 notes. Blandish's pale eyes widened with greed. The wallet was crammed with notes!

A grand new Lone Pine Story

SECRET OF THE GORGE

By Malcolm Saville

As the man held the notes between his fingers and lifted them towards the light, Blandish saw on the back of his hand a long white scar stretching from the knuckle of the middle finger to his wrist.

"Wait here—I'll have a word with the Missus." But even as he spoke he slipped the notes into his pocket. "What's your name, Mister?"

"Johnson—William Johnson."

Blandish nodded and disappeared, and the man who gave his name as Johnson walked over to the window and stared out into the sunlit street. He seemed content to wait for something he wanted very much—to stay in this shabby inn for a few days.

He was still staring out of the window when Blandish and a woman came back.

"This is the Missus," Blandish announced shortly.

Looking over the Manor

Mrs. Blandish was a handsome, untidy woman. Her hair was dark and her eyes were bold and she wore gold rings in her ears like a gipsy.

She stared closely at Johnson. "You was wanting a room and two meals a day, my husband tells me."

"That's right. I like this place. It will suit me. Here's another £5 and perhaps I can see my room now."

Before the woman could answer the window was darkened as a lorry drew up outside. Three

workmen got out and came into the inn.

"Morning all," said a short, dark man as he walked up to the bar. "Anyone know where Bringewood Manor is? We come from Wolverhampton way and we've got to have a look at the old place before knocking it down."

"What's that?"

Johnson moved forward and glared at the workmen. "What's that you said? Why are you going to knock down the Manor? When do you start?"

The others looked at him in surprise.

"Why are you interested in the Manor?" Mrs. Blandish asked.

Johnson swung round on her.

"I—I don't like to see old houses pulled down. That's all. Too many old places destroyed these days. It's wrong." He turned to the workmen. "When do you start?"

"Only got a few days to get ready, Mister. Then—down she comes. But don't let that worry you—there's a new housing estate going up afterwards."

"The old Manor's about two miles from here," said Blandish. "You can turn right at the bottom of the street—" All the men went outside with the innkeeper and left Johnson alone with Mrs. Blandish.

"You can stay here, Mr. Johnson," she said as she came closer. "You're worried about the old Manor and it being knocked down. Bit of a shock for you, eh?"

"Nonsense. I'm only upset that old houses should be knocked down." He paused and ran a finger round his collar. "I should like to see this Manor of yours before the workmen start destroying it. Tell me about it. How long has it been sold? Who did it belong to?"

Calculating look

Before his wife could answer Mr. Blandish came back into the room. There was a calculating look in his eyes as he looked at Johnson.

"Bringewood Manor?" he said. "It's about a hundred years old. Massive great place stuck right up there at the top of the gorge. Belonged to a Mrs. Whiteflower, but it was sold after she died a couple of months ago. The family was in debt. Only a kid of twelve left but he won't get much. An old aunt is looking after him."

Johnson looked across at him.

"That boy. Is he the last of the Whiteflowers?"

"That's about it. He and the aunt have cleared off and gone to live somewhere Shropshire way."

Johnson picked up his bag. "Thank you. Perhaps you will show me to my room now." Mrs. Blandish nodded and led the way.



The man calling himself William Johnson fell sprawling into the room!

As soon as he was alone, Blandish sat down in a chair, brought out the notes from his pocket and examined them carefully. He was still staring at them when his wife came back and carefully closed the door.

"Well?" he said without looking up. "Who is he? What's he after?"

She made no answer so he went on.

"The scar on his hand! That's what's been nagging at me ever since I seen it. The scar!"

He swung round and stared in triumph at his wife.

"I've got it! His name isn't Johnson! He's Harry Sentence, the butler at the Manor over 40 years ago when the diamond

necklace was stolen by the housekeeper who was drowned."

Blandish walked up and down the room, banging one fist into the other. His wife was too surprised to speak.

"You weren't there at the Manor, Maggie, but I was. Just a kid in the gardens. Didn't even know you then. Sentence was away at the time of the theft but he was friendly with the housekeeper and there's many thought he had something to do with it. The police could get nothing on him but there was plenty of talk and he went to Australia or somewhere before the war. What's he come back here for, Maggie?"

The Whiteflower Diamonds

She was about to answer when a slight noise in the passage outside made her pause. Quickly she move to the door and opened it.

The man calling himself William Johnson fell sprawling into the room!

Simon Blandish laughed. A horrid, almost silent laugh, as he stepped over the sprawling man locked the door and pocketed the key.

"Get up!" he ordered. "Spying at the keyhole were you? Don't waste your breath arguing. We know who you are. You're Harry Sentence and you were butler at the Manor when the housekeeper stole the Whiteflower Diamonds. Remember her, Harry Sentence? You were interested in that poor woman."

White-faced, Sentence scrambled to his feet and suddenly lunged forward as if to strike his tormentor, but Blandish was bigger, stronger, and younger. With a rough hand he forced him down into a chair.

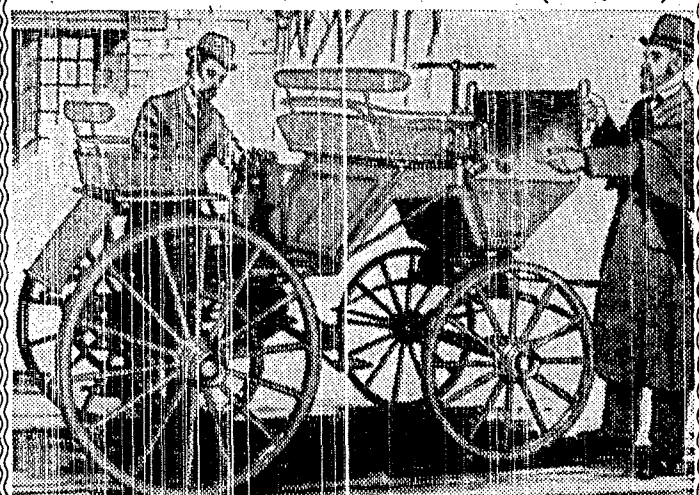
Why have you come back?

"Sit there and listen. It's all coming back to me now. I know now why you've come back to Bringewood Chase. You're after the Whiteflower Diamonds. The necklace was believed to have been stolen by Harriet Brown, the housekeeper. Nice young woman she was. A few days after the theft she was drowned in the river. They never found out why she went out in that storm. Perhaps you know, Harry? The police

Continued on page 10

OLD-TIME CARS

(A series of twenty-four)



No. 2. THE 1886 DAIMLER

GOTTLIEB DAIMLER, a pioneer of the motor industry, made his first experimental engine to fit a motor-cycle, but he decided that it was more suitable in a car. This was his first car, with a single cylinder vertical engine, and gear drive

to each back wheel. He was greatly helped by the enthusiastic young man seen looking at the engine, named Maybach, later the founder of the Mercedes car. These Germans with Carl Benz, also a German, pioneered the motor industry.

San Allan

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Send s.a.e. for tickets or more information, to

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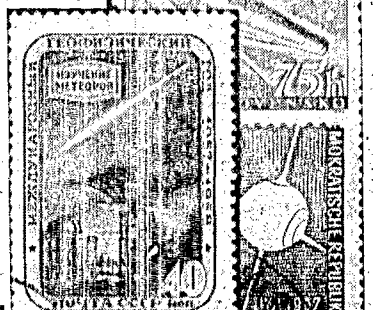
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NEWS FROM THE ZOO

BIRD WHICH CRASHED IN THE SEA-LIONS' POND

A LONDON Zoo bird "in the news" just now is a valuable red-crested bustard, a handsome partridge-like bird about a foot tall. Taking advantage of a high wind the other day, the bustard "took off" and began flying towards the neighbouring park. Unused to flying, however, the bustard weakened when over the sea-lions' pond, and came down with a splash.

A visitor who saw the "crash" quickly warned keepers, who raced to the pond, to find the bird in dire straits. Two of them called up the sea-lions and held them back on the banks, while Keeper Sawyer, of the ostrich house, waded out into the water and grabbed the bustard. It was soon warmed and dried out before a fire. "It was lucky that the visitor was passing, or there might not have been such a happy ending," Headkeeper Stanley Hexter told me. "Even if the bustard had not drowned, the sea-lions would probably have worried it to death."

TASK FOR MATTHEW

Matthew and Martha, the London Zoo's emus, which live in a small paddock opposite the bird house, are having their quarters enlarged, for Martha is expected to start laying a clutch of eggs shortly. "Although this will be Martha's first clutch," a Zoo official told me, "it is quite possible that she will produce ten or a dozen large green-shelled eggs. And we have great hopes of a successful hatching."

"These two emus came over here in the Queen's Australian Collection from Sydney in 1954. Among emus it is always the male bird who does the incubating, and we hope that Matthew will do his job properly. During the sitting process (from four to six weeks) a keeper will take food to him daily, so that he does not have to leave the eggs. Emus breed occasionally at Whipsnade, of course, but it is many years since

we hatched any of this species at Regent's Park," the official added.

Unhappily, this week I have to report that the Zoo has lost its rarest bird, the grey-necked Picathartes, which died of pneumonia. The Picathartes, a kind of rock-fowl, was brought from East

Zoo friends



Mr. William Wilson recently became Superintendent of the Belle Vue Zoo in Manchester, and here he is seen making friends with Corky, the 60-year-old greater sulphur-crested cockatoo.

Africa in 1948. The species is so rare that the Zoo specimen was in fact the only one of its kind ever to be brought to Britain alive.

About the size of a crow, the Picathartes was incredibly quick in all its movements and looked like a combination of pigeon, tropical jay, and a large rail. Its head was completely bare, with black skin in front, red at the back, and black at the sides. The Picathartes's body is likely to be preserved and sent to the Natural History Museum, I was told.

Under close observation just now is Miranda, the menagerie's eight-foot-long South American manatee, or "sea-cow," which lives at the Aquarium. As I mentioned a few weeks ago, Miranda lost her mate Ferdinand, and it was feared that she might mope and go off

her feed. But happily, this has not happened.

"Miranda does not seem to be worrying unduly," an official said. "Rather the reverse, in fact. Since Ferdinand died she has been carrying on much as usual and seems almost to enjoy having the pool to herself. Certainly her appetite has not been affected. She still gets through enormous quantities of green food daily, mainly lettuce and potatoes (both raw and cooked).

NEW LION CUBS?

Finally, an item from the lion house. For several years past the Zoo has had no families of lion cubs on show. This state of affairs, however, is likely to be rectified before long. The lion Sultan, which arrived in 1953 as a gift from the Sultan of Lahej, and the lioness Elizabeth, which came from the Pretoria Zoo in 1952, are to become parents in the near future.

"We hope all will go well, because a lion 'nursery' is always one of our biggest attractions," one official told me. "As a rule, a lion litter consists of from three to six cubs, but first litters, as in this case, may very possibly contain only a couple of babies."

CRAVEN HILL.

SECRET OF THE GORGE

Continued from page 9

thought she stole the necklace but couldn't prove it. Did she? Did she steal it for you, Harry? Is that why you have come back to the Manor—to look for the necklace that has never been found?"

All the fight now seemed knocked out of Harry Sentence. He sat slumped in the chair—a pathetic, tired old man.

When at last he spoke his voice was expressionless.

"All right. No use denying it. I'm Sentence," he admitted. "Just my luck coming to this place. Or is it? Harriet Brown did steal the necklace and hide it. We were going to leave the Manor and start fresh in Australia. Then she was drowned. I read in an English paper in Australia that the White-flower estate was to be sold so I came over here to see if I could find the necklace."

Simon Blandish rubbed his fat hands with greedy satisfaction.

"We're with you in this, Harry Sentence. Both of us. We'll find that necklace. Listen. In the local paper there's a notice of a sale of old furniture in Ludlow. Some of the furniture comes from the Manor. Might be worth looking at. Things can be hid in furniture."

Sentence was shaking with excitement.

"Fetch the paper. Let's see it quick. I must go to that sale."

"We must go you mean, Harry," Blandish reminded him softly. "It's 'we' from now on."

To be continued



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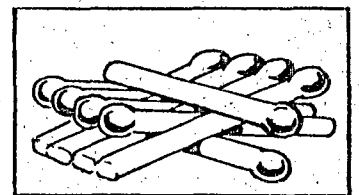
PUZZLE PARADE

LINK THEM

Link one word with another in the following clues to give the names of nine familiar birds.

CHAFF; king; moor; pip; spar; sky; wag; lap; her; hen; inch; row; fisher; it; tail; lark; on; wing.

A NEAT MATCH TRICK



HERE you see ten matchsticks lying on a table. Can you raise the matchsticks into an upright position without touching more than one of them?

ADD AN AGE

The answers to the following clues all end with the word age. Can you find the six words concerned?

LEAVES of a tree.
Kind of soup.
Wise, venerable man.
Feathers of a bird.
A captive, sometimes held to ransom.

Crossword puzzle

READING ACROSS. 1 Arrived. 5 Barren. 7 Alters. 9 French for the. 10 Lithe. 13 Deception. 15 Showed the way. 16 Anger. 17 You might fry in it. 18 Deed. 19 Sudden terror. 21 Assembled in large numbers. 23 Evangelical Union. 24 Downright or utter. 26 Slightly wet. 27 Consumes.

READING DOWN. 1 Baby cow. 2 The United States. 3 Myself. 4 To succeed or follow. 5 Snake. 6 Feet. 8 Worthless. 11 Diagram. 12 Tolerant. 14 Crafts. 17 Chaplain. 18 In the centre. 19 — cent. 20 Severs. 22 Juice of a plant. 25 Automobile Association.

Answer next week.

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES

Link them. Chaff-inch; king-fisher; moor-hen; pip-it; spar-row; sky-lark; wag-tail; lap-wing; her-on.

Match trick. Raise the bottom matchstick carefully, and the others will rise into an upright position.

Add an age. Foli-age; pott-age; s-age; plum-age; host-age.

Changed heads. Bear; dear; fear; gear; hear; near; pear; rear; scar; tear; wear; year.

How long? In 4½ years' time.

Number puzzle. Portugal. Guess this. The wind.

CHANGED HEADS

I AM a wild animal.
Change my head and I am expensive;

Change again and I am frightened;
Change again and I am apparatus;
Again, and I listen to;
Again, and I am approximate;
Again, and I am a fruit;
Again, and I am the back;
Again, and I scorch;
Again, and I am a sign of sorrow;
Again, and I use up;
Again, and I am a period of time.

HOW LONG?

If a boy is 12 years of age and his father is 45, when will the father be three times as old as his son?

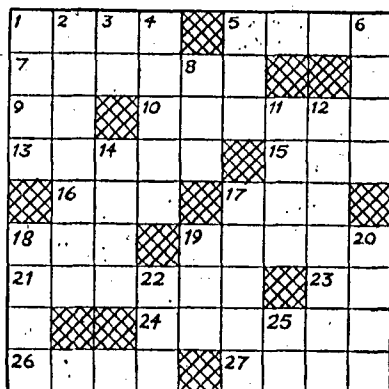
NUMBER PUZZLE

Can you, from the clues below, find the name of a country of Southern Europe?

SHIPS enter 1234.
Look in your home for 356.
374 is a rodent.
6758 is the old name for France.

GUESS THIS

SOMETIMES its voice is soft and low,
At others loud and shrill.
Feel it you may, but this I know,
See it you never will.



JUST A FEW WORDS

- A Ambiguous means doubtful; having more than one meaning. (From Latin *ambiguus*—uncertain.)
- C Irascible means irritable; hot-tempered. (From Latin *irascibilis*—ira, anger.)
- B To censure is to blame; to condemn as wrong. (From Latin *censura*—assessment or judgment.)
- A Statistics are tables of numerical facts, originally those relating to a State. (From Latin *status*, state.)
- C Tangible means able to be touched; capable of being realised. (From Latin *tangibilis*—tangere, to touch.)
- A Proximity means immediate nearness in time or place. (From Latin *proximus*, nearest.)

JUST A FEW WORDS

HERE is an entertaining way to increase your knowledge of words. Each numbered sentence below is followed by three answers or comments you might make; but, in each case, only one is correct and shows that you have understood the meaning of the word in italics. To answer five or six correctly is very good. (Answers are given in column 3)

- He made an *ambiguous* statement.
A—Could mean two different things.
B—A scandalous attack.
C—So convinced he is right.
- She gave him an *irascible* answer.
A—Mystifying.
B—Impossible to deny.
C—Irritable.
- The committee have *censured* this man.
A—Checked up on him.
B—Condemned him for doing wrong.
C—Dismissed him from his post.
- Statistics* will prove I am right.
A—Facts and figures.
B—Public opinion.
C—Future events.
- My experiment had *tangible* results.
A—Rather confused.
B—Highly coloured.
C—Something I could touch.
- The *proximity* of the enemy alarmed us.
A—So near.
B—So fierce.
C—So many of them.

LUCKY DIP

GIANT'S BUTTONHOLE

THE world's biggest flower grows in Sumatra and Java. A flower without leaves, the *Rafflesia Arnoldi*, as it is called, measures more than a yard across, grows on other plants, and breathes through their leaves.

Its buds look like cabbages, and they enlarge for about three months before they are fully open. The centre of the flower is cup-shaped, about a foot wide, and is big enough to hold about 12 pints of water.

CAUGHT

THERE was a young rascal of Mold
Who never did what he was told.
He borrowed Dad's rod,
And went fishing for cod.
But all that he caught was a cold.

HOWLER

THE crack Roman troops were known as *Gladiolus*.

BEDTIME TALE

DIRTY PAWS

STRIPEY the Badger loved his young wife Melia deeply, but he did wish she would not fuss so about washing his paws and changing bedding.

Stripey liked things clean, too. But often Melia would say: "The sett smells stuffy. We must spring-clean" when he himself could smell nothing.

Now, one night Melia said: "I am going to enlarge that side passage beyond our sleeping chamber, and have it for a nursery. I shall clean it extra well, and put in new bedding, so that directly our cubs are born they will know how nice a clean smell is."

A few dawns later Melia said: "Tonight I shall finish the nursery,

SPOT THE...

HOUSE MOUSE as it nibbles at some odd scrap or scampers off at your approach. An average specimen is between three and four inches long, and the flexible tail, which is



slightly hairy, is the length of head and body combined. The colouring is greyish-brown with pale underparts, but those which live out of doors are often yellowish. The house mouse is duller-coloured than the long-tailed field mouse, and its eyes are smaller and beadier.

and tomorrow I shall move in there to sleep."

But that very midday she woke and poked Stripey. "There is an awful smell," she said.

Stripey sniffed hard. Melia was right this time. Then he heard footsteps going past their sleeping quarters, and distant barking.

"That's Fang the Fox seeking refuge here. Now just you lie still," he said.

Later on Fang trotted away to his den. But his smell remained. And he had slept in the new nursery!

Melia was heartbroken. "You know foxes don't keep their paws or their homes clean, and now you see what comes of it," she sobbed.

Stripey hung his head. "I'll help you put in fresh bedding," he said. But still the smell remained.

"We must move, then," Melia said. But they found the other setts all occupied.

"Then I'll wall off that passage, and we'll dig a new nursery," he said, determined to make amends.

Soon all was done, and two cubs were born. And weeks later, when Stripey heard them grumbling about having to wash their pads, he spanked them hard.

JANE THORNICROFT

JACKO UPSETS THE BUCKET—AND THE LAW



Well on the target

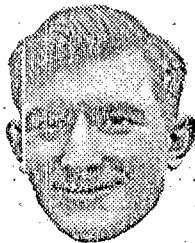


FOURTEEN-YEAR-OLD John Duhig, who is a member of the Black Prince Bowmen of Bexley, in Kent, is one of Britain's outstanding young archers. Last year he scored a "perfect end"—putting six arrows in the gold, or centre, of a target.

This is the first time in nearly 100 years that a boy has achieved the feat in an open tournament.

FOURTH CHOICE IS NUMBER ONE

THE Australian rugby team face one of the stiffest games of their tour on Saturday, when they meet England, at Twickenham. The Wallabies will certainly take the field with a psychological advantage, for they have won both their previous games against England, in 1909 by 9 points to 3, and in 1948 by 11 points to nil. Eric Evans, one of the most dominating forwards in post-war rugby, is the only member of the present season's England team who appeared in the last match with Australia in 1948.



Ron Syrett

New players are continually being capped, and one of the most recent newcomers to the England XV is Ron Syrett, the Wasps' dashing forward. Syrett comes

from the little Buckinghamshire village of Lane End, and lives with his brother-in-law Ted Woodward, former English rugby international. Both are butchers in the district. Their association started when they played together for the Wycombe Royal Grammar School XV and continued with Wasps and Middlesex.

Yet Ron Syrett, whose brother Dennis keeps goal for Wycombe Wanderers F.C., might never have achieved international honours but for injury to other selections. Reg Higgins and Jeff Clements were chosen for the first English Trial, but Higgins dropped out, and Ian Beer was chosen. But Beer was also injured, and "fourth choice" Syrett played. He kept his place in the second trial—again because of injury to Higgins and Beer, but was so successful that he became England's No. 1 choice for the match with Wales.

Another rugby international will be played on Saturday, when Wales meet Scotland at Cardiff, the 62nd match between the two countries. Of the previous games, Wales holds a slight lead, with 31 victories to 28 by Scotland.

Like the English, the Scots have introduced a newcomer to international rugby this season—Tremayne Rodd, 22-year-old, sub-lieutenant in the Royal Navy. He learned his rugby at the Royal Naval College, Dartmouth. Five years ago, he played for the English Public Schools against the Scots, but that was his last honour until this season. Then he was invited to appear in a Scottish trial, and as reserve for an English trial. He chose Scotland. Rodd, incidentally, was the middleweight boxing champion of the Home Fleet a few years ago.

be returning on holiday to represent Scotland in the discus event and probably the weight putting.

Two men who will not, it seems, be appearing in the Games are Australia's Olympic swimming champions Jon Hendricks and Murray Rose. They are both studying at university in America and cannot spare the time to return to Australia for the month's trials and possible qualification for the team to come to Wales. Australia has more-than-adequate deputies, however, in John Devitt, who has beaten Hendrick's 100 metres free-style record, and 15-year-old Jon Konrads.

Jon has just had a remarkable spell of record-breaking. In the space of eight days he broke six world records—for the 800 metres and 880 yards; the 400 metres and 440 yards; and the 200 metres and 220 yards.

Jon's achievement followed a few days after his sister Ilsa's record swim mentioned last week.

This summer will be a busy one for our athletes, for in August the European Championships are to be held in Stockholm. The Championships will be held in the Stockholm Stadium, scene of the 1912 Olympics, which is being largely rebuilt for the occasion. It is expected that about 27 countries will be taking part.

And looking ahead still further—to the Olympic Games of 1960, in Italy—the Tiziano Stadium in Rome is to be sown with an Australian lawn mixture in preparation for the Games there. It was chosen on the recommendation of a member of the Italian Olympic team at the Melbourne Games in 1956. The seed is shortly to be shipped to Rome.

SPORTING GALLERY

BRYAN DOUGLAS

To take over from the immortal Stanley Matthews as England's outside-right is an enormous responsibility. Bryan Douglas, of Blackburn Rovers, has already acquitted himself well and appears to be the natural successor to the great footballer: he has always admired.

As a boy Bryan lived within kicking distance of the Blackburn ground. At nine he played for his school (St. Bartholomew's) in a cup-final at Ewood Park.



Later he was selected for Blackburn Boys, his first representative honour, and on leaving school started to learn motor engineering.

Unknown to Bryan, his stepmother wrote to Blackburn Rovers about his football ability. He was given a trial and signed as an amateur in 1950.

Bryan always believed himself to be an inside-forward, but was small for the position. When the Rovers switched him to the wing he started along the road to success.



Head-hunters now play football

THE Papuans who live around Hollandia in Dutch New Guinea have now taken up soccer. The game is played all the year round, and so popular has it become that villagers often attend a match which might be anything up to two days' walk away.

In former times some of these people were head-hunters, but now the rivalries between village communities are expressed on the soccer pitch. The barefooted Papuans play vigorously and rough amid scenes of the wildest enthusiasm. They are allowed to ventilate their feelings by shout-

ing at the referee but players are banned for six months if they fight on the field.

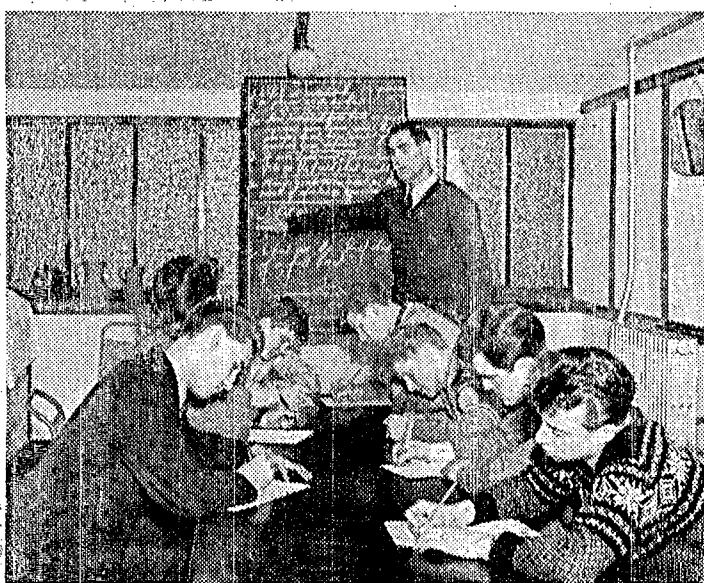
In and around Hollandia there are two soccer leagues, the Dutch League with ten teams and the Papuan League with 30 teams. Many Papuans are also members of Dutch teams; in fact, one of the ten sides is composed entirely of Papuans.

Soccer is part of the Dutch system of educating the people in the way of Western life. The admission charge to matches of one shilling is intended to show the Papuans that they must pay for the things they want—and of course to get money they must work.

From Hollandia to Holland and news of George Hardwick who is chief coach of the Dutch soccer club P.S.V. of Eindhoven. The former England full-back certainly finds life very busy, for he has to keep an eye on 500 players aged from ten upwards, and every match day he has to select no fewer than 22 teams.

Stanley Matthews will change sides

As soon as the soccer season is finished in this country Stanley Matthews will be taking a Blackpool team containing at least seven internationals to Australia. They will play a series of "Tests," and will meet various State teams. To give some of the Australian players experience with an English League club, Matthews has suggested that during the first half of the State games two promising Australian players might be included in the Blackpool side while he plays in the State team.



The subject is soccer

The arts of soccer are not learned entirely on the football field. Lectures and blackboard lessons all have their part in the development of young players, as we see from this picture of members of Doncaster Rovers F.C. listening to the Club coach, Syd Bycroft.

SPORTS QUIZ

1. Who defined cricket as "casting a ball at three straight sticks and defending the same with a fourth"?
2. What is the world land speed record?
3. In what sport would you use a crosse?
4. Which is longer: 1500 metres or one mile?
5. How many events are there in a pentathlon?
6. Which Rugby team is sometimes called the All-Blacks?

1. Rudyard Kipling. 2. John Cobb's 394 mph. 3. Lacrosse. 4. One mile. 5. Five. 6. New Zealand.



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